

of Larks and other birds from Morocco and Tunis, including 3 very rare species, new to the collection; presented by J. I. S. Whitaker, Esq. 8 birds from Pará, including the rare *Psophia obscura*, new to the collection; presented by Dr. E. A. Goeldi. 74 birds from the Khin-gan Mountains, Mongolia; presented by Dr. Donaldson Smith and J. E. and G. L. Farnum, Esqs. 53 birds from Mozambique; presented by H. S. H. Cavendish, Esq. 24 birds from the Owen Stanley Mountains, S. E. New Guinea; purchased. 118 birds from British Guiana; presented by Dr. J. J. Quelch and F. V. McConnell, Esq. 72 birds from North Borneo; collected by J. B. Bell, Esq.; purchased. The nest and eggs of Prince Albert's Rifle-bird (*Craspedophora alberti*) from Queensland; received in exchange from D. Le Souëf, Esq. 61 birds from Southern Somaliland and the Lake Rudolf district; presented by Lord Delamere. 28 specimens from New Guinea, &c., including 5 species new to the collection; received in exchange from the Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P. 93 birds from the Louisiade Archipelago, collected by Mr. A. S. Meek; purchased. 21 specimens of birds from Lahej, Southern Arabia, and 163 specimens from Somaliland, including types of 3 new species; presented by R. McD. Hawker, Esq. 238 birds from Nyasaland; presented by Alfred Sharpe, Esq., C.B. 66 birds from the Salisbury district in Mashonaland, including the type of *Stactolema sowerbyi*, a new species of Barbet; collected by Mr. J. S. Sowerby; purchased. 95 birds from Machako's, British East Africa; presented by Dr. S. L. Hinde. 18 birds from Central Australia; procured during the Horn Expedition, and presented by W. A. Horn, Esq. 77 specimens from Muscat, Arabia; presented by Surgeon-Lieut.-Colonel Jayakar. 21 birds from Mt. Albert Edward, S. E. New Guinea; purchased. 64 eggs of Gulls and Ducks from the Smölen Islands, N. Norway; presented by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe.

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*Acquisition of Mr. H. E. Dresser's Collection of Birds by the Manchester Museum.*—We take the following from the

Report of the Director of Owens College:—"The number of donations shows no signs of falling off. By far the most important during the past twelve months has been the collection of birds formed by Mr. H. E. Dresser, which has been purchased and presented to the Museum by a gentleman who desires to remain anonymous. This collection formed the basis of Mr. Dresser's great work on 'The Birds of Europe,' and his monographs of the Rollers and of the Bee-eaters, and is one of the most important in the country. Neither trouble nor expense has been spared to make it as complete as possible, and more particularly to make it a working collection. Numerous specialists, who have had the privilege of making use of it in their studies, have united in expressing their opinion of its value in this particular direction. As regards the extent of the collection, there are of Bee-eaters about 30 species and 155 specimens, and of Rollers 26 species with 112 specimens, while the Western Palæarctic collection contains 721 and the Eastern 260, making a total of 1037 species, or more, according to the British Museum catalogue. When it is remembered that in almost every instance these forms are represented not merely by a single skin but by several, showing the differences of plumage due to sex, age, and local variation, it will be readily believed that it amounts in total to some 10,000 specimens. There are several types and numerous rarities, among which may be mentioned two specimens of the Rosy Gull, whose nesting-place was discovered by Nansen in Franz Josef Land, and two Labrador Falcons. The skins have all been carefully selected, and the collection has been accurately labelled, all particulars as to habitat and other details being recorded. Many specimens have been compared with rare types and noted as agreeing with them; others are the first or the only recorded specimens that have occurred within the Western Palæarctic area. Enough has now been said to show that the acquisition of this valuable collection is indeed a piece of singular good fortune for the Manchester Museum, and therefore for all students of ornithology in this neighbourhood."

Of the chief Palearctic families the particulars, furnished by Mr. Dresser, are as follows :—

	Species.		Species.
Turdinæ .....	45	Nocturnal Raptores .....	23
Saxicolinæ .....	44	Diurnal Raptores .....	58
Sylviinæ.....	96	Anatidæ .....	51
Paridæ & Sittidæ .....	51	Gallinæ .....	41
Motacillidæ, Laniidæ, &		Charadriidæ .....	80
Muscicapidæ .....	80	Laridæ & Stercorariidæ ..	42
Fringillidæ .....	116	Tubinares, Alcæ, & Pygo-	
Alaudidæ .....	34	podes .....	32
Picidæ .....	26		

Owens College is indeed to be congratulated upon possessing so valuable a collection.

LIII.—*Obituary.*

JOHN CORDEAUX, F. B. SIMSON, and E. M. H. RIDDELL.

JOHN CORDEAUX, who died at his house at Great Cotes, Lincolnshire, on August 1st, in his sixty-ninth year, was the son of the Rev. John Cordeaux, M.A., and was born at Foston Rectory, Leicestershire, on February 27th, 1831. In youth some of his vacations were passed in the neighbourhood of Louth, and this perhaps fostered a taste for the marshlands and coast of Lincolnshire, and led to his taking up his abode at Great Cotes when quite a young man. A frequent contributor to the 'Zoologist,' 'Naturalist,' 'Field,' &c., the year 1873 saw the publication of 'The Birds of the Humber District,' an admirable little book, full of the results of personal observations. A supplement, up to date, was published shortly before his death. In the autumn of 1874 he made his first visit to Heligoland, and was the earliest British ornithologist to make known, from personal experience, the extensive collection formed by the late Heinrich Gätke. A description of this visit appeared in 'The Ibis' for 1875 (pp. 172-188), and his acquaintance with Gätke stimulated his previous interest in the migration of